



OHNA Quarterly Newsletter | Fall 2017

As 2017 comes to a close, we want to take this quarter's newsletter to highlight all of the recent programs, initiatives and contributions from our residents that continue to make our neighborhood such a special place to live. Thank you all for another great year and we wish you all a safe and happy holiday season.



We would like to thank the Saturn Church of Christ for providing a convenient location for our monthly meetings. All members are invited to our gatherings.

Please see the calendar of events on the last page for dates and follow us on social media to stay connected.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ohna.us>

Ask Not

No, we're not going to steal President Kennedy's inspiring words, but OHNA does need volunteers to operate effectively! Whether you are interested in meeting on a regular basis, or only have time for a few (or one) sessions, there are many opportunities to contribute to the quality of life in our neighborhood.

Some of our committees work year round, some plan a single major event that returns every year, and some are a "one time only" event. Please look over the following list and consider adding your ideas and/or actions to one of our committees.

If you are interested in one or more of these opportunities, or are willing to consider a call for assistance, please contact Margi at 214-587- 5206 or Betty at 972- 278- 3096 .

Year round:

Neighborhood Watch
Citizens on Patrol
Flower Gardens (less demanding due to City of Garland assist)
Publicity/Publications
By-laws

Annual:

Holiday Party (Winter)
Annual Meeting (March/April)
Plant Sale (Spring)
Picnic/ 4 th of July Celebration (Summer)
Neighborhood Garage Sale (Fall)

One time only:

Historical Marker
Grant Proposal
Pop-Up Event(s)
City Council Presentation(s)

OHNA Christmas Party



On Saturday, December 2nd, holiday fun was happening at Kelly and Pam Payne's home on Ashley Drive. At the end of each year, OHNA invites its members to gather and celebrate all the good times shared and reflect on those anticipated in the coming year. Kelly and Pam had decorated their home beautifully with Pam's unique welcoming style. Kelly's holiday tie and sense of humor added his casual warmth to the occasion. Thank you, Christi Baughman, for setting up the OHNA signature perimeter lights to welcome all. In reflection, the board fondly agreed that it is a get together that we all look forward to each year because of the wonderful closeness we feel as neighbors. It was heartwarming that this year there were several new neighbors in attendance, as well as many who have been attending since the first Holiday Party. The pot luck dishes were indeed a tasty combination of many cuisines and tastes that reflected the uniqueness of our talented neighbors. As with most of our gatherings, time flew by as we enjoyed catching up with each other and sharing memories of Orchard

Hills. Councilman Rich Aubin arrived, after driving home from Houston, thinking the party would be over only to find that it was still going strong and continued until almost 11:00.

Thank you, Kelly and Pam Payne for again providing your lovely home and hospitality for the 2017 OHNA Holiday Party. It was a memory we will all treasure during this season of giving.



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Veteran's Day 2017

On November 11, 2017, many of the streets in Orchard Hills were lined with American flags in honor of our military veterans. Nine volunteers placed 317 flags.

The reaction was immediate and favorable. People noticed. People smiled. They honked their horns. They waved and said "Thank you" or "God bless you" or "I want to be part of this!"

People who got flags on their curb liked them. People who did not get flags wanted them!

Neighbors talked to each other. People donated to buy more flags. Volunteers stepped up to help. The American, can do spirit was alive in the heart of our neighborhood.

Thank you to our generous donors who funded this beautiful display – Jason Lain, Cathie & Travis Mitchell, Eula Axe, Rhonda Spence and Tracy Flores.

And thank you to the foot soldiers who were up before dawn to put the flags out: Shellye Scott, Linda Houston, Dorothy Furr, Eula Axe, Charles Axe, Christi Baughman, Rhonda Spence, Andrea Rideout, and Margi Bice. Thank you ALL for taking the initiative to make this project happen!

In order to cover the whole neighborhood on Memorial Day 2018, we need to purchase 288 more flags and secure 15 volunteers to get the job done.

If you would like to sponsor flags on your street or sign up for the installation team, please contact us at flags@OHNA.us or mail donations to OHNA, P. O. Box 472685, Garland, TX 75047-2685.



Did you know that the City of Garland is going to update our landscape beds? A beautiful redesign is complete to help reduce maintenance and increase visibility. The project is called the ONV Neighborhood Enhancement Project and is scheduled to begin in the Spring of 2018. And...The long awaited Parkmont Drainage Project is officially under way. Patience and persistence do pay off!



Historical Committee

OHNA has started a new committee to gather, document and share information about the history of our neighborhood and needs your help.

The Orchard Hills Neighborhood Association has started a new committee who's purpose is to research and document our neighborhood's rich history. The committee is looking for stories, articles, information or photos that can be shared.

OHNA began this initiative by meeting with Kay Moore who was very involved with the preservation of her childhood neighborhood on 11th street, which is now referred to as "Magic 11th Street". This area became Garland's first entry on the historical national registry.

Her passion to preserve the history of Garland's homes and the people who lived in them inspired us to begin our efforts to follow in her steps.

We have created a committee and started a private facebook page to gather and share information. Now, we need your help!

**Do you have any information
on the previous owners
of houses in Orchard Hills
Neighborhood?**

If you live or have lived in the Orchard Hills Neighborhood, what is the address you lived at and how long have you lived there?

Do you know of any famous people who have lived in the Orchard Hills Neighborhood (present or past)?

Do you have a story you can share?

Betty Roberts shared the history of her home on the next page.

If you have something to share, we would love for you to reach out so that we can arrange a method to obtain it or copy it.



OHNA website:
<http://history.ohna.us>

By email: history@ohna.us

By mail: Jim Nearingard

945 Old Orchard Rd., Garland, TX
75041-2936

By Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/OrchardHillsHistory/>

*note this is a closed group, and you must be approved to join

Robert Residence

We see signs around the neighborhood saying "Home is where the heart is." But home is also where the history is. The OHNA is working to preserve the history of houses and families in our neighborhood. What's your house's history?

Here's my very ordinary story: Our house was built in 1963 on the corner of Saturn Springs and Glenbrook Drive, by the newly constructed bridge across the creek. We moved in March 1972. People with long memories say, "I remember playing with the Duke girls" and "Oh, you live in the Duke's house." Oh, come on - we have lived in the house 45 years, 7 months, surely it can be called the Roberts' house.

Our four children grew up playing in the creek behind the house sometimes called Saturn Springs Creek, Axe Creek, Duck Creek 2 and Duck Creek. When one son was 10 he stepped on a rusty nail, developed strep and stayed in the hospital 5 days. Another time, the same son and friends hung off the bridge to capture a john boat in flood waters. Once during a wonderful snow and ice storm, we were up early sliding down the hill on cookie sheets and turkey roasting pans. The most fun was five or six going down the hill on a metal step ladder. Our neighbor raised her window and hollered at us, "You crazy people it's four o'clock" (that was AM). Then, they came out and joined us.



It is an amazing fact that all four kids did grow up. And all the neighbor kids did too. At one time there were 14 boys between the ages of 9 and 12 from our corner to Old Orchard - all on their bicycles, skateboards and skates. Once we applied to build a storage building in our back yard but were turned down because we were in a floodplain. Yes, we are in two floodplains. Since we could not construct a permanent building, ours is on skids in case we need to move it. I might mention it is now 8 feet closer to the bank than when constructed. No, we have not moved it closer to the creek; the creek has moved closer to us. One year we had a winter storm during Christmas and no electricity for four days over January 1. We lit the gas in the fireplace and camped in the den. Some of our kids' friends came because they thought that was such fun. We had solid sleeping bags on the floor, put all food outside on the patio and cooked in the fireplace, lived like pioneers. Fortunately, we still had water. See - you have stories to tell. No famous people lived in our house; we've never been on the evening news, nor have we done major changes to our house. Some of you have done all of those. Tell us about it.



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Annual Garage Sale

Did you find a treasure at the OHNA garage sale this year? Did you have a sale and empty your garage or attic or maybe you met a new neighbor?

The 2017 OHNA Garage Sale kicked off on Thursday evening on Betty and Gerow Robert's front porch where participants came to pick up their signs and city permits. The sale was held Friday, October 6 and Saturday, October 7th. The weather was beautiful! No rain. No wind. The merchandise ranged from Tiffany wine glasses to a box of rocks! 15 families participated by holding a sale or donating items to charity. OHNA gained 2 new members and 4 people renewed their membership. The Payne's kept the neighborhood connections flowing by hosting Neighborhood Night Out at their place on Friday night. Our neighborhood was so generous with donations, the ARC of Texas had to send a second truck to collect it all! Expenses were: \$95.09 for some new signs and to print the flyers.

And what does it take to put on a neighborhood garage sale? Here is a glimpse of some the roles be-

hind the scenes. Angela Crum designed and printed the flyer. Cathy Stark placed signs and arranged for the charity truck. Jim Neargarder designed the best directional map ever, advertised on social media and took photos. Jan Alexander made custom signs, and collected signs after the event. Betty Roberts obtained city permits and hosted sign pick up at her house. Margi Bice coordinated flyer delivery, purchased and placed signs. And thank you to these families who helped deliver flyers to all 603 houses in our neighborhood: Axe, Bice, Brown, Crum, Furr, Hall, Mowrey, Paris, Rideout, Rodgers, Schatz, Simons, Spence, and Stark. Teamwork gets it done!



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NEIGHBORHOOD SUMMIT



GARLAND

2017

helping neighbors,
strengthening communities

At the 2017 Neighborhood Summit, residents from Garland, Plano and surrounding communities gathered to share ideas and learn how community leaders are actively engaging and strengthening their communities. For the first time in 15 years, the Neighborhood Summit was hosted by the City of Plano, at the Oak Point Nature Center.

Sponsored by the Office of Neighborhood Vitality, the event was held November 4th at Oak Point Park Nature and Retreat Center. The event's general session and six additional breakout sessions were very good, but the Center alone was worth the trip.

We learned how to help reactivate failing neighborhoods, how to use Next Door for other uses than finding lost pets (who knew?), how to build cooperation in neighborhoods, and how to interview people to preserve the history of buildings and families.

The views from the windows, the parking lot and the deck were beautiful. We saw people on bicycles, on horses, people walking, birds flying, ducks landing on the lake. To get there, go up Jupiter, past Collin College about a mile. Park and enjoy the beauty - then go in the building and enjoy the beauty, a very nice building.

Now back to the Summit. Orchard Hills was well represented: Charlie, Eula, Margi, Jan and I have valuable information to share with you. I think our favorite person was Emma from Rainbow Estates. This is a very small area north of 66, behind a very large Mount Hebron Church.

On Friday night, a mixer was held at the Atrium. We met and talked to city leaders and people from other neighborhoods who work so their area will have a positive impact. These are doers in their community: organizing neighborhood associations and crime watches, serving on boards, doing landscaping, applying for grants. I guess we can say these are

people who put their money where their mouth is. I have attended 12 of the 15 Summits. I have heard speakers from Minneapolis, Pittsburgh, Denver, Houston, Ft. Worth, Dallas and many other places. They all have common experiences: this is what we faced, this is how we confronted it. Not all were great success stories, some were small steps but all were dedicated to making a difference. The workshops and mini sessions give people a chance to work together, ask questions, do problem solving. I like attending the Summits. I like the people I meet. I like talking to people who want good things to happen in their neighborhoods and who are doing what they can. Every year we have our own summit at the annual meeting. We encourage people to come meet each other, city leaders, city employees. This will be at the Lutheran Church on Saturn in April. We have a mini summit every second Monday each month. All of you are invited to attend the business meetings, hear what is going on, make suggestions. Come to the back door by the playground at Saturn Road Church of Christ. Both churches are very generous in letting us use their buildings.

- Betty Roberts



509 West State Street, Garland, TX 75040
(972) 271-2400

<http://www.intrinsicbrewing.com>

OHNA Celebrates

OHNA is recognized by the City of Garland for their neighborhood communications. Thanks to everyone who is involved in this.

"Jim Nearing is the heartbeat of our communications and he is too humble to believe he deserves this award. Yes, there are and have been many who contribute, but Jim truly keeps the communication going between us all. This award will be hanging in his home until the Orchard Hills Historical Museum is built". - Jan

The City of Garland recognizes Betty Roberts for her Neighborhood and Community involvement. Betty does not like me taking her picture, so at least I could get her eyes to prove she is the one behind the plaque.



Upcoming Events

December

12/14 & 12/28 Recycling Days

January

1/8 OHNA Board Meeting

1/11 & 1/25 Recycling Days

1/16 Crime Watch Meeting

February

2/8 & 2/22 Recycling Days

2/12 Board Meeting

2/24 Work Day

March

3/8 & 3/22 Recycling Days

3/12 Board Meeting

3/24 Work Day

April

4/5 & 4/19 Recycling Days

4/9 Board Meeting

4/12 Annual Meeting

4/12 Crime Watch Meeting

4/28 Plant Sale

May

5/3 & 5/17 Recycling Days

5/14 Board Meeting

5/19 Work Day

June

6/9 OHNA Picnic

6/11 Board Meeting